



CONNECTICUT REALTORS®

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Statement on

SB 45, AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEARN HERE, LIVE HERE PROGRAM

SUPPORT

March 1, 2022

Submitted by Connecticut REALTORS®

Connecticut REALTORS® (CTR) submits testimony in **SUPPORT** of **SB 45, AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEARN HERE, LIVE HERE PROGRAM**. CTR represents over 19,000 members involved in all aspects of real estate in Connecticut.

SB 45, AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEARN HERE, LIVE HERE PROGRAM increases the annual expenditure on the Learn Here, Live Here program to not more than five million dollars and makes such program available only to individuals whose income is fifty-five thousand dollars or less.

The "Learn Here, Live Here" model was passed in 2011 (Public Act 11-140) but remains inactive. If implemented, this program will encourage graduates of public/private institutions of higher education, technical/career schools, and health care training schools, to live and purchase a home in Connecticut.

The proposal establishes a savings program for a population who often struggle with large student loan debt which, in turn, prohibits or delays their ability to purchase a home.

It's imperative to Connecticut's future to keep our state-educated talent here, especially as many jobs have evolved to provide remote options and as all businesses struggle to find employees. This is an important incentive towards that goal and we urge you to support its funding.

CTR requests your support of **SB 45, AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEARN HERE, LIVE HERE PROGRAM**. Thank you very much for your time and attention to this important matter.